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A LECTURE
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INCLUDING
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AND OTHER EMIGRANTS.

DELIVERED BEFORE THE
MEMBERS OF THE CHICHESTER MECHANICS'
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Nov. 27, 1837.

BY HENRY WATSON,

AGENT AT CHICHESTER TO THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN COMMISSIONERS.

Second Edition.

WITH AN APPENDIX,

CONTAINING THE REGULATIONS OF THE COMMISSIONERS,
DIETARY FOR FREE EMIGRANTS, &c.

LONDON:

SOLD BY J. GLIDDON, 3, AUSTIN FRIARS;
AND W. H. MASON, CHICHESTER.

1838.



It has been impossible, in the limited space allotted to this Lecture, to refer to all the authorities to which I am indebted, but I would express my obligations to the admirable work of E. G. Wakefield, Esq., "England and America," and would direct the reader to it for a developement of the principles on which the colony of South Australia is founded.

The following Works may also be consulted with advantage :—

Col. Torrens "On the Colonization of South Australia." 8vo. Price 12s. Longman.

"The New British Province of South Australia," published by Knight. Price 3s.

"The South Australian Record," published occasionally by Mr. Gliddon, 3, Austin Friars, contains interesting intelligence respecting South Australia, as it is from time to time received.—Four numbers have been published, price 5d. each. They may be procured of any bookseller or newsman.

A LECTURE.

You very likely may feel disposed to say to me, (for I hear the observation daily,) "What! would you send out of the country its hardy peasantry, the young, the vigorous, and the ardent, the flower of the land? Would you ask us to cultivate the distant soil of Australia, while we have so many thousands of acres of merry England lying barren? Would you persuade us to leave our father-land, for which Hampden and Sydney bled and Alfred legislated, which Newton has rendered illustrious in science, Bacon in philosophy, and Shakespeare in deathless song? Would you have us leave England, the wonder of surrounding nations, and the envy of the world?" This is all no doubt very fine; but let us ask the labourer his condition. He will tell us that the number of applicants for employment is so great, that he has to submit to low wages, labor being all that he has to give in exchange for food and raiment: he has therefore to work harder for less remuneration, and his condition is one of painful and degrading poverty,—that he is badly clothed, scantily fed, and his house indifferently furnished. If we inquire into the condition of the capitalist, the manufacturer, the farmer, the tradesman, we shall be told that competition is so great, that their profits are lowered, and that their capital diminishes. A man who has capital is puzzled to know where he can invest it without loss; another who wishes to apprentice his son, is perplexed by finding all trades equally overstocked. If we turn to what are called the learned professions, we shall find nearly as many doctors as patients, as many lawyers as clients.

Now you will hear an infinite variety of projects for alleviating the evils we all deplore. One philosopher will tell you it is owing to faulty legislation; one recommends spade-husbandry, another the repeal of the corn-laws; and a class of economists, of which Mr. Malthus was the founder, will tell you that there was a great mistake in the command, "Increase and multiply and replenish the earth;" and that it is necessary, forsooth, to restrain the inclinations of "young men and maidens" for that state which poets and divines have so highly recommended, lest we should become so numerous as to eat up each other, or to shoulder each other into sea. Thus every one has his own specific; I profess to have mine.

You will perhaps be ready to say, "Ha! we perceive what is your nos-

trum ; you are one of the Emigration quacks." Not exactly so—I advocate something a great deal better—I advocate *Colonization*. You may tell me that this is only a difference in words:—I will explain how there is an immense difference in facts. A great many have gone into the backwoods of Canada and the United States. The life of a backwoodsman is usually one of unremitting toil. Secluded in the depths of the forest, he has to fell the trees ere he can plant his ground ; shut out from social help, he and his family are compelled rudely to manufacture all they require ; far from society, he sees with regret that his children are deprived of the blessings of education and religion. Here is a picture of solitary emigration. Colonization, if rightly conducted, contemplates not the removal of isolated individuals, but of society ; and of society so composed, as to be efficient for the purposes of mutual co-operation and support in the various relations of life, so that every new comer may find some of his own class to mingle with, some of other classes with whom to exchange that which he has for that which he needs. The capitalist will meet with laborers—the working man will find an employer ; the mechanic, the merchant, and the agriculturist will each bring his peculiar aid for the benefit of the community and for his own. The emigrant would in fact change nothing but natural scenery ; it would be just as if he had removed from Sussex into Devonshire.

But nothing is so essential to the welfare and happiness of a community, as the influences of domestic life. A wise system of colonization will therefore at the very outset bring these influences into action, and to conduce to this great end, will select emigrants in a nearly equal proportion of each sex ; and thus, as far as practicable, "set the children of the earth in families," and form a community in which every one has his own home, his own domestic circle.

And while glancing at this important subject, I will point, as "an example to deter," to the horrible demoralization that abounds in the penal colonies of Australia, and which I will venture to assert is not more attributable to the depravity of the convicts, who are from time to time brought to add their quota of vice and crime to the common stock, than to the unnatural condition in which the community at large is placed in this respect. The ties of kindred—the influences of home—the endearments of childhood, will tend to humanize the most savage, to purify the most depraved, to cheer the most wretched : but to the great body of the population in New South Wales, these helps to reformation, these allments to virtue and to happiness are unattainable ; the very constitution of society there denies them. The result is one which may be imagined cannot be described.

But to return :—The three great elements of wealth are land, capital, and labor. In this country we have a redundancy of labor, an abundance of capital, but a deficiency of fertile land. Only imagine, if to this county there could be added an extensive tract of fertile land ; if the sea, for instance, could give up all the thousands of acres it has swallowed at Selsey and Bognor ; or if Kangaroo Island, of which I shall speak presently, were brought as near to us as the Isle of Wight ; instead of the land selling as it does at Kangaroo Island for twenty shillings an acre, it would be worth twenty pounds an acre ; our capitalists, whose money now brings them so small a return, would have an enlarged field on which to employ it ; we should hear nothing of people being out of work ; our peasantry, who have nothing to offer in exchange for necessities but their labor, and who from the overstocked condition of the labor-market, and their underbidding each other, are in a state of depression we must all deplore, would immediately be employed at high wages. Thus we should have two excellent things, high profits to the capitalist, and high wages to the laborer : but as we cannot bring the island to our redundant labor and capital, it is obviously the same thing if we convey our redundant labor and capital to the island.

But you will say, "What an expense it would be to convey laborers to this fine country you speak of." I will engage to show how we may bridge over the ocean, and how our starving laborers may pass over it toll-free : instead of our agricultural laborers being a burden to one part of the Queen's dominions, I will engage to show how they may be removed at no expense to themselves or the country, to another part ; to a superior climate and more fertile soil, where their presence would be hailed as a blessing, and where the avenues to wealth and station are opened to them and their posterity. Hear what are the prospects of the laborers in Australia, in an Extract from the *Sydney Gazette*, of May the 22nd, 1850.

"Here then is a country prepared to our very hands for the purposes of civilized life : while England is groaning under a population for which she cannot find bread, here is an unmeasured extent of fertile land that has lain fallow for ages, and to which the starving thousands of the North are beckoned to repair. The great want of England is employment, the great want of Australia is labor. England has more mouths than food, Australia has more food than mouths. England would be the gainer by lopping off one of her superfluous millions, Australia would be the gainer by their being planted upon her ample plains. In England the lower orders are perishing for lack of bread, in Australia they are like Jehu, "waxing fat and kicking" in abundance. In England the master is dis-

tracted to find work for his men, in Australia he is distracted to find men for his work. In England the capitalist is glad to make his 3 per cent, in Australia he looks for 20; in England capital is a mere drug; the lender can scarcely find a borrower, the borrower can scarcely repay the lender. In Australia capital is the one thing needful; it would bring a goodly interest to the lender, and make the fortune of the borrower. Then let the capitalist make his way hither, and his one talent will soon gain ten, and his ten twenty. Let the laboring pauper come hither, and if he can do nothing but dig, he will be welcome to 23s. a week, and feast on fat mutton and beef at 1d. and 2d. per pound.* Let the workhouses disgorge their squalid inmates on our shores, and the heart-broken pauper shall soon be converted into the honest, industrious, and jolly-faced yeoman."

But do not suppose that I would send you to that "rogues' paradise" Sydney. Allow me to offer a few remarks upon the state of society in our penal settlements in New South Wales and Van Dieman's Land. When these colonies were founded, they were intended to receive the convicts this country had been in the habit of transporting to our North American colonies, and which had then revolted from us; these were wealthy, prosperous states, inhabited by a virtuous and intelligent population, among whom the convicts were dispersed and gradually absorbed. It is probable that many of the most respectable individuals in the southern states of the union owe their origin to criminals transported from England. But how different has been the system pursued in New South Wales! Here, without any counteracting influence from a virtuous resident population, the sweepings of our jails have been sent to people one of the fairest regions of the universe. And what has been the result of the experiment? From the extraordinary natural advantages of the country, the emancipated felon has acquired wealth, but rarely that reformation of character which can alone make wealth a blessing to the possessor. The consequence has been a gradual lowering of the tone of society—of the standard of morality; the "felony of New South Wales," as the emancipated convicts have been called, form a distinct class, many of them possessed of great wealth, keeping each other in countenance by their numbers, possessing their own newspapers, and constituting, if statistical returns and the testimony of dispassionate observers are to be believed, the most demoralized community on the face of the earth. How true was the remark of one of the wisest of men, Lord Bacon, "It is a shameful and unblessed thing, to take the scum of the people and wicked condemned men to be the people

* These, it must be remembered, were the prices in Sydney in 1830.

with whom you plant, who will ever live like rogues, and be lazy, and do mischief, and spend victuals." Looking at the present state of society in our Australian colonies, a shameful and unblessed thing indeed has been our attempt to plant with the scum of the people, and to convert emancipated rogues into the founders of a great empire. What inducement a right-minded emigrant has to take his family within the moral contagion of these colonies may be estimated by the following extract from Prinzsepp's delightful Letters from Van Dieman's Land. "Freemen find so many ways of making money here, that they will not take service, and so the convicts, or as they are delicately called, 'the prisoners,' supply all demands of this nature; and if the histories of every house were made public, you would shudder: even in our small ménage, our cook has committed murder, our footman burglary, and our housemaid bigamy!"

The state of morality in a country is tolerably well indicated by the consumption of ardent spirits. In Great Britain it amounts to one gallon and a fraction to each individual, in New South Wales to the enormous quantity of seven gallons.

There has been another attempt to found a colony at Swan River, on the Western coast of Australia, but an unhappy error has involved it in difficulties which have seriously impeded its prosperity. Land was sold at 1s. 6d. per acre, and persons who bought land at this low price, took out laborers from England to cultivate it: these laborers were indentured to their masters for a term of years, but in every instance this contract was violated. It must be obvious that those capitalists who had not expended their capital on the immigration of laborers could afford higher wages than those who had; hence disputes innumerable. The laborer too, as soon as he had obtained a little money by his high wages, invested it in land, misled by the recollection of the old country, in which the possession of land constitutes wealth, and forgetful that land without combined labor is of no more value than the empty hive without the bee. Another cause of the ill success of the colony at Swan River, was the lavish manner in which grants of land were conferred; the cousin of a cabinet minister was allowed to select 300,000 acres before the expedition sailed; this he of course chose in the immediate vicinity of the port, consequently other settlers had to go to a greater distance, and hence a desert was interposed between them and a market. The effect of this state of things has been the dispersion of the colonists and their rapidly retrograding in civilization.

The early history of our North American colonies was still more disastrous, though the first three were planted by a man of superior abilities, Sir Walter Raleigh. They had abundance of capital, they had abundance

of land of the most fertile description, but these were useless to them—they died of famine, because they wanted laborers ; it was only the arrival of a slave-ship that saved them from destruction, but at the same time introduced a moral pestilence that continues to infect, and threatens to convulse, the fair fabric of the American constitution.

We thus see that erroneous systems of colonization have inflicted serious evils upon almost all our colonies during their infancy. But are we never to learn from the errors of our predecessors ? Shall science and experience diffuse their blessings over everything but colonization ? Must new communities, as a matter of course, pass through the precarious states of infancy and pupilage, or can they be made to start at once into vigorous manhood ? To use an image which my brother vine-growers will understand, in planting the new country, shall we take a cutting that will require years ere it can throw out roots and establish itself in the earth, or shall we transplant a rooted tree that will speedily bear fruit ? In fact, it is designed, in founding the new colony in South Australia, to send out, as I have before observed, not only people but society. It will as much as possible resemble an out-lying English county, affording a more productive field for English industry, and embellished by the skill, the intelligence, and the refinement of Englishmen.

One great evil in the management of the old colonies has been, that the regulations for their government rest with the Colonial Secretary for the time being, a functionary who has upon his hands the destinies of millions of people of every clime and every race ; his office being a political one, he is changed with every change of ministry ; and even supposing each Colonial Secretary to be equally talented and equally zealous, it is obvious there can be no permanency of system, when I state that the present possessor of the office is the seventh in seven years. In the Act of Parliament by which South Australia was founded, almost the entire management of the colony is vested in a board of commissioners, comprising some of the most able statesmen of the day ; but as soon as the population amounts to 50,000 it will receive a constitution of local self-government.

It has been a great evil in the old colonies that vast tracts of lands were granted to favourites : in South Australia no land whatever will be granted on any other terms than the payment of a fixed price per acre, which at present, by order of the Commissioners, is £1, and cannot by law be less than 12s. Another evil has been the deficiency of laborers ; and if the capitalist imported them, land was so cheap that they immediately ceased to work for hire, and without adequate capital began to be farmers on their own account. Thus the largest possible quantity of land was cultivated in the worst possible manner.

The remedy provided seems simple and effectual ; it is that the whole net proceeds of the sales of land shall be appropriated to give a free passage to young and industrious emigrants of both sexes. By these means—the fixing of a minimum price upon land, and the appropriation of the produce—the capitalist will be ensured an adequate supply of labor, and when, by frugality and industry, the laborer has accumulated enough to purchase land, he is replaced in the labor market by others, whom he, by investing his savings in the purchase of land, has contributed to bring out. We thus insure a virtuous and industrious peasantry, and prevent the necessity of resorting to convicts and slaves.

But although I have stated that the land is all to be sold at £1 an acre, a moment's reflection will prove that the purchaser really gets it for nothing ; he does not so much buy land as the facility of obtaining combined labor, because the whole of the emigration-fund accruing from the sale of the land, is expended in carrying out laborers, and is thus returned to the purchasers in that which alone makes their land valuable. To show that it is so, the Commissioners are willing to carry out for any capitalist, laborers, provided they are suitable in other respects, in the proportion of one for each £16 invested in the purchase of land.

Herein consists the grand distinction between this and every other colony. We have stated that the three elements of wealth are, land, capital and labour, and upon the due and relative proportions of each of these to the others, depends the well-being of states. Here is the first attempt in the history of colonization, to plant a colony upon correct principles, to ensure to the laborer employment, and to the capitalist an ample supply of labor.

In planting our old colonies, we almost invariably inflicted privation, and vice, and destruction upon the aboriginal possessors of the soil. We find from all experience, that when a civilized community comes into contact with savages, that the barbarians gradually disappear from the face of the earth. I find it stated in the report of a committee of the House of Commons, ordered to be printed June 26, 1857, " That the tendency of Europeans coming in contact with native inhabitants of our settlements, (*with the exception of cases where missions are established*) is to deteriorate the morals of the natives, to introduce European vices, to spread among them new and dangerous diseases, to accustom them to the use of ardent spirits, and of European arms and instruments of destruction, to the seduction of native females, to the decrease of the native population, and to prevent the spread of civilization, education, commerce, and Christianity ; and that the effect of European intercourse has been upon the whole a calamity upon the heathen and savage nations."

We hear it asserted, that Providence has decreed that the one should increase and the other decrease. What ! Is it according to the decrees of a beneficent Creator that his creatures should be swept from the face of the earth ? Can it be according to the good pleasure of Him whose precept is, "Do unto others as you would that others should do unto you," that these should be "a people robbed and spoiled" for no better reason than because they are weak ? Can He look with complacency on the massacre of the defenceless, or is the fire-water an ordinance of His ?

What a fearful responsibility do the founders of a new colony encounter ! A respect for the rights of the aborigines must be a primary consideration. It is enacted, that in South Australia they are to be treated as British subjects ; all aggression upon them will be strictly punished, and an officer is appointed especially to watch over their welfare, under the title of Protector of the Aborigines. So far from the presence of the whites diminishing their supplies of food, the utmost efforts will be made to teach them the cultivation of the earth. So far from the colonists being a curse to the natives, it is hoped they may be the means of raising them in the scale of being, of imparting to them the blessings of civilization and Christianity, till this vast island, at present almost entirely a howling wilderness, may blossom as the rose, the abode of enlightened man.

You will probably enquire if any particular form of religion is established by law. Let it not be thought that the founders of the colony are insensible to the blessings which exclusively belong to a religious and virtuous population. To form such a community, their most anxious efforts are directed : but they have considered, that these blessings were best secured, by not making one religious sect dominant over the rest, or possessed of any peculiar superiority save that which it may derive from the consistency of its members and the Christian zeal of its teachers.

The emigrant members of the church of England have taken out with them, for present use, a wooden church, in which the Rev. C. B. Howard, a pious and zealous clergyman, officiates :—and members of various dissenting persuasions have been equally careful to obtain the advantages of a gospel ministry.

The all-important subject of education is not forgotten : the formation of schools for the benefit of every class of the community is in progress, and teachers, competent to instruct the youth of South Australia, are already settled in the colony.

You will naturally ask, "Where is South Australia ? What sort of a place is it ? What particular natural advantage does it offer to the emigrant ?" In reply to the enquiry, "Where is Australia ?" I do not know if every one will understand me if I reply, "at the Antipodes." If

you examine the relative position of England and Australia upon a terrestrial globe, you will observe that they are directly opposite to each other, the feet of a person standing on one part of the globe are opposite to those of one standing on the other; hence, the meaning of the word Antipodes. When it is day with us, it is night with them; when it is summer with us, it is winter with them; for instance, at this moment the sun that has left us to darkness is there risen, and while my good brother-in-law, Mr. Hack, is thinking of his breakfast, we are about our suppers; his feet, if walking, are directly opposite to ours, and instead of the usual cold of an English November, it will be near his Midsummer.

But you will say, "What a strange out-of-the-way place it must be, down at the opposite extremity of the world." Out of the way of what? Of England? Certainly: but is it out of the way of the rest of the world? It makes all the difference looking to a place and looking from it. If we fancy ourselves at Australia, to the north we have in Asia, India with its numerous hordes, and infinite variety of productions; China teeming with wealth, and possessing a most industrious population: to our left is Africa, to our right America and the countless fertile isles with which the Pacific is studded. So far as position is concerned, no place is more advantageously situated for commerce than Australia; it occupies a position with reference to the places I have enumerated, like the frog in the centre of a horse's hoof. Let no one say that it is *separated* from these places by the sea; its insular position is its greatest advantage,—it is *united* to these places by the sea, "the great high road of nations."

The honour of the first discovery of this vast island, is still disputed by the French, Spaniards, Portuguese, and Dutch. It seems, however, to have been first discovered by De Quiros, a Spaniard, in 1609, and was called by him *Australia del Espirita Santo*. The Dutch were the first to explore its coasts, and from them it derives its name of New Holland.

The island to the south of New Holland was discovered in 1642, by Tasman, who called it after his mistress, Van Diemen's Land, though I find that the inhabitants of Hobart Town are disposed to call it after its first discoverer, Tasmania.

To the English belongs, almost exclusively, the merit of exploring Australia. Early in the last century it was visited by Dampier, and subsequently by Captain Cook and Captain Flinders. Capt. Flinders surveyed the western and southern coasts, and it is to him that we are chiefly indebted for the little that is known of the shores of the new colony of South Australia. Captain Cook surveyed the eastern coast, and it was owing to his description of the exuberant fertility of Botany Bay, that it was resolved to establish there a penal settlement.

The formation of the country is very remarkable. On the eastern side, at about forty miles from the sea-coast, runs a range of mountains, called the Blue Mountains. This range is considered the spine of the Australian continent, and from it the principal known rivers take their source. Those which flow eastward are of no great size, having but little distance to traverse before they fall into the sea. Flowing into the interior from the western side of this range is an important river, the Murrumbidgee, which attracted much of public attention, and Captain Sturt was sent with a party to explore it. I know of no narrative more interesting than the one he has given of this expedition, from the importance of the discoveries that were made, the perils that were encountered, and the heroism with which they were surmounted. On tracing the Murrumbidgee for some distance, he found, to his great delight, that it fell into a much more important stream flowing from the south-east, which he designated the Murray. On proceeding down this stream he soon found it joined by a fine river flowing from the north, which has since been proved to be the Darling that he had before discovered.

He describes this magnificent river (the Murray) as flowing in extensive reaches of three or six miles in length, sometimes between lofty cliffs, on the summit of which the natives appeared as small as crows, sometimes leaving extensive flats of alluvial soil which was as black as ebony, and of exuberant fertility. As he approached the mouth of the river (after tracing it 1000 miles) he found the valley expand to a breadth of four miles. It would have been impossible for the most tasteful individual to have laid out pleasure-grounds to more advantage, than Nature had done, in planting and disposing the various groups of trees. The river does not occupy the centre of the valley, but inclines to either side, according to its windings, and thus the flats are of greater or less extent according to the distance of the river from the base of the hills: these consist of land of the richest description, soil that is the pure accumulation of vegetable matter. If its hundreds of thousands of acres be practically available, Captain Sturt would not hesitate to pronounce it one of the richest and most highly-favoured spots on the face of the earth. He found the river terminate in an extensive lake, to which he gave the name Alexandria. His time being exceedingly limited, from the scarcity of his provisions, and having to reascend the river against the stream, he was enabled to examine the lake but very imperfectly, and did not discover any navigable outlet between it and the sea; but hurried as were his views of its banks, he observes that they cannot, unless nature has deviated from her usual laws, but be fertile, situated as they are to receive the mountain deposits on the one hand, and those of the lake on the other; and never did

he see a country of more promising aspect or more favourable position. "It would then appear," (he adds,) "that a spot has at length been found upon the south coasts of New Holland, to which the colonist might venture with every prospect of success, and in whose valleys the exile might hope to build for himself, and for his family, a peaceful and prosperous home."

How far these anticipations of success have been justified, will be better seen by the letters that have been received from some of the first emigrants.

EXTRACTS OF LETTERS

Received from Mr. and Mrs. J. B. HACK, formerly of Chichester.

February 20th 1837, Glenelg. Well, here we are at last; yesterday was a day of intense interest to us. We came through Back-stairs Passage, between Kangaroo Island and the main, about six in the morning, and were all day coasting up the eastern shore of St. Vincent's Gulf. The country resembled the bold raggy cliffs of North Wales more than any other I have seen. On passing Rapid Bay we observed marks of cultivation, and a party landed, who found a garden, from which they brought a supply of vegetables that were very acceptable. The ground seemed rich, but the huts were deserted. It was, however, gratifying to find, that the settlers had found some other situation still more eligible. We sailed on after dark, till a sudden squall of wind made us drop anchor in a hurry. We then fired a cannon, and had the pleasure to see lights hoisted in five vessels, about a mile ahead; of course there was no sleep for us that night, and at five this morning, we were up to get the first peep at our adopted country. Opposite to us is a large open plain, thinly wooded; the country further inland appears very beautiful.

March 7th. It took ten days to get our goods on shore and our temporary house erected. The first few days were intensely hot; we had indeed a warm welcome; thermometer 104° in the shade. The climate is now delightful, a warm sun, with a cool refreshing wind. There do not appear to be any noxious insects—two small snakes only have been killed. The natives are only too friendly: a family party called this morning; they seem very good natured. I breakfasted this morning on damper* and parrot, regular bush-fare; the parrot was capital eating. I hope we shall be fortunate enough to shoot some daily. The quails are in great abundance: the trees are alive with parrots: I must have seen 200 cockatoos to-day: a kind of wagtail hops about the door as familiar as the robin in England. One of our men brought home an emu on horseback before him: he kept it a day or two, when the poor thing died, just as two gentlemen came to offer him £2 for it; the men had it for dinner to-day. As my view here is bounded by trees, I can give you no description of scenery; it is just like part of Raby park;

* A cake of unleavened bread, baked in the ashes of a wood-fire.

the trees are in groups, and we shall enjoy the country thoroughly when we have not so much to occupy our thoughts. So far we have no reason to regret coming. We shall remove to Adelaide in a few days, as the water there is excellent; the lagoon water here is very bad, but we have dug a well, and the water will be very good as soon as it has settled. We met with a very pleasant friend in our fellow-passenger, from Launceston, Mr. L. G.; he has given us much advice from his own experience, which has been most diversified, having lost every farthing he possessed after landing at Launceston; he took a few sheep into the Bush and roughed it, until now he has estates and all things in abundance. With Launceston so near us, we are secure from the hardships they endured—they can never happen to us. It is delightful to hear him talk: "Above all things" he says, "do not make your little fellows too useful; give them the best education you can procure for them, or they will find themselves one day in possession of wealth that it is impossible for them to enjoy. The young men at Launceston are now in this situation, and he sees the misery of it. At present our boys are too young to suffer, but we will not forget the good advice. It was curious to hear the people talk at Launceston, after the cold doubts and calculations in England. Success, every one told us, is certain, provided you keep sober; now, as intemperance is a sin I do not think we shall suffer from, our minds may be pretty easy.

Glenelg, March 9th. I wish you could see what a sun-burnt happy party we are, and all that we have to complain of is a little too much hard work. Glenelg, where we still are, consists of beautiful rich plains between the beach and Adelaide, which is five miles off. We found, to our disappointment, that the town was not allotted when we arrived. The other wooden house is now erecting at Adelaide; we are also building a kitchen, which we hope will be finished in a few days, when we shall all remove. We continue to like our adopted country exceedingly. We have scarcely made a meal on salt meat, as we have been kept supplied with parrots; but the best meat I ever tasted is kangaroo; it resembles hare more than anything I know, but we all pronounced it superior. S—— and another young man went out yesterday and killed a kangaroo and a native dog; the latter are very bold and numerous. To-day he brought home an emu, the leg is hanging up for to-morrow's dinner; it is the size of a good large leg of lamb. The harbour abounds with some of the finest fish in the world, particularly one as large as a cod, but far superior in flavour, called a snapper; then there are wild ducks, quails, and pigeons in abundance, so no fear of our starving. If you were to see the miserable shifts our good friends and neighbours are put to, you would think us well off: we are almost the only people in the colony who possess wooden houses, all the others living in sh-huts and tents. The other day, in a gale of wind, we saw some poor people running after their house that had blown away: let no one come to a new colony without one of Manning's nice portable wooden houses. I wish I had brought four instead of two, I should have saved it in workmen's wages. I could now dispose of them at a great advance on their original cost. We have been fortunate enough to find the clergyman and surgeon particularly agreeable, and to have met with a clever young man, competent to instruct the

elder children. We already have made acquaintance with many of the settlers and their ladies, whom it is a pleasure and a privilege to know, and indeed we could not have found better society in any country-town in England.

April 15th. We are arrived at Adelaide, and are much pleased with the place as we see it from our house, which is situate on the brow of a hill, where we intend to remain for the winter, and see, by next spring, which of our acres will be most eligible for our future habitation. I shall not be contented without a view of the hills. Autumn is stealing upon us. This day has been quite cold, so that a coat is comfortable even when working; the nights are cold; thermometer 44° . The country and climate are superior to any thing we had anticipated: indeed we have been disappointed in nothing, and when we are more settled, shall be very comfortable. It seems the very country for children to thrive in; ours are in robust health, and look so stout and rosy, very unlike the delicate children they were in England. Children are riches here. I have had but little time to walk about, but the children bring me beautiful flowers. We find our women-servants a great plague, they are so good-for-nothing. One of mine has quarrelled with her husband, packed up her clothes and taken herself off. It will not be for good, I fear: the other she does not find so much moving about suit her health,—the we can get quit of them both the better.

Natives I have no fear of: parties of them frequently come down house: they are very quiet and peaceable, never stealing. We find them very useful in bringing wood and water, which we always make them do before we give them any bread, of which they are very fond. Our children are a great amusement to them, particularly the youngest: they pat his cheek and laugh, and he seems as much pleased with them: the glass of the windows of our house is their greatest wonder. They seem very fond of their own children, and often bring them to be named: a couple of them came here last night to enquire if we had seen their pickaninny, as it had strayed away. We have not seen them this morning, so I suppose they have found it in some of the tents. The natives are all clothed, or partly so: one called Jack has just passed with his children; he is a fine specimen of the natives, and very intelligent. These people have not at all badly shaped craniums; some of them are remarkably well made and muscular; they are all ready to do any work they are capable of and understand. Captain Bromley, who is appointed Protector of the Aborigines, is engaged in studying their language. Mrs. Brown has made one of them, as a mark of distinction, a Holland round frock, in which he struts about very majestically. The noise they make in their corrobories in the evenings is tremendous, and is a most wild sound when all else is still.

April 20th. I have been riding with S—— to see a fine country he has discovered about ten miles off, and have been much delighted with the beauty of the valleys, which are filled with the richest black mould I have yet seen anywhere, and springs of water in all directions, which we know to be always flowing, as the tea-tree which will never flourish without water constantly round its roots, is growing abundantly. We shall send

two men to-morrow to build a sheep-fold : and take possession of it as a sheep-run.

April 24th. Rode over with the Judge, Sir John Jeffcott, to our sheep-run, with which he is highly delighted ; he thinks he saw nothing in Van Dieman's Land to equal it. We rode over open plains with nothing to interrupt the plough for about ten miles, and then ascended the hills by a winding valley ; from the plain at the top there was a most beautiful view, very much in many respects like that from Bow-Hill, near Chichester, only much more extensive ; the flat-topped hill we crossed appears about 1000 acres. We then descended into a wide valley, with grass up to the horses' middles, to the place where S—— and the men had commenced their work at the sheep-fold, and were glad to get some of their bush-fare, damper and coffee made from flour burnt brown in a frying-pan, which Sir John (and of course he is a *judge*) pronounced excellent. We are obliged to make the walls of the sheep-fold very high, as the wild dogs are so large and numerous: S—— is at deadly warfare with them. We lost two sheep the other night by them ; they rushed at the fold, and the sheep broke out ; fortunately the two injured are the worst of the flock. The bullocks are worked every day, and turned out to feed at night only ; there is grass enough for them, so they have been no expense to us since landing, except the wages of the man who looks after and drives them. After bringing up our own goods, they are employed in carting those of the other emigrants, for which we are well paid ; indeed it is quite a favour to have them.

May 11th. Yesterday afternoon we had the pleasure of receiving your welcome letters ; but what a gloomy view you take of our suffering and privations ; and no wonder ; you could never anticipate the comfort and independence that flourish around us ; and while you are fancying us suffering all manner of distresses you cannot define, here we are enjoying the comfort, and freshness, and independence of a new colony. We do not consider that our regular business of farming is yet begun ; as it is, we have to refuse as much business as we do, for want of time to execute it. Here is ample employment for as much of your unemployed labor, and talent, and capital as can be sent out. There is nothing to be feared from the heat. Ladies who used in England to feel exhausted by a hot day, all confess that they do not find the heat here oppressive ; the air is so pure and elastic, that it never causes the wretched, low-spirited feeling that it does in England. The thermometer at the present moment is at 80°, and we are only just thinking of opening the window, and when that it is done a delightfully fresh breeze soon cools the room. It is now five months since we landed, and I can truly say that all we hoped for has been granted us, indeed far more for we have continually to number our blessings.

May 13th. The first grand-jury that ever met in South Australia was called together to-day, and received the Judge's charge. I was of the number, and was most agreeably surprised to see that so large a body of respectable men could have been assembled at so early a period of the colony.

May 24th. I have been suffering a good deal from ophthalmia: this seasoning complaint is the only drawback to this delightful climate. Our

doctor tells us that when we are properly sheltered, and have proper food and vegetables, we shall not be subject to it. We have now become quite settled into comfortable English habits. We have had potatoes this last week, and they have been enjoyed as much as if they had been peaches: though we have longed for vegetables we have not suffered from the want of them, owing to our good little heifer calving, the day after we landed, which has enabled us to give the children a rice-pudding every day. I think you never saw them in such blooming health; they are much stouter than when in England. We have now a nice garden, stocked with young plants, and hope in a few weeks to have an abundance of vegetables. The garden made here is only for temporary supply; our principal one will be on the sixteen acres: you will see exactly our position by the plan of the town; the view from thence is most delightful: beyond the town is a rich plain, five miles across, backed by the mountains; we shall place our house in the shade of the trees, and have this exquisite view before us. Captain H—— is to bring us tropical plants from Sidney, and English ones from Launceston, so that in a few years we hope to have one of the prettiest gardens in the place, though some of our neighbours, who called at the Cape, have the start of us. As to the hardships and privations we were led to expect, we have known nothing of them, except that we are beginning to be badly off for clothes, owing to the detention of the vessel we are anxiously looking for daily. We have been here three months, and have all English comforts about us, and the merchandize that we brought from England, has paid admirably. We only regret that we did not bring a great deal more, as the profit is so great upon all articles of necessary consumption. We continue to be still more delighted with the climate. The winter consists of pelting showers for a day or two, and then a week of warm sunny weather. The nights are cold, a fire is acceptable, and we require as much bed-clothes as you do in England.

May 27th. We have been very busy unpacking our goods that have arrived by the Schah: our little parlour is the pride of the colony, it looks so neat and cheerful, now that the pictures are up, and the ornaments on the chimney-piece, and indeed I believe it is the only chimney-piece in the colony: it is a very handsome one of cedar. We had to-day a white table-cloth for the first time, and the luxury of silver spoons is great indeed; it is delightful to have tea-cups and glass tumblers to drink out of once more. I suppose people call the want of such things the hardships of bush-life, but as we have never looked upon them as hardships, we have felt none. This being the rainy season, every thing looks green and fresh; the children are constantly bringing home handfuls of the most beautiful flowers, "garden flowers," as they call them, growing, to their surprise, wild in the bush. We will collect and send you the seeds of such as are coming into bloom at this season of the year, our winter; they would, no doubt, exactly suit your summer. The weather precisely resembles a showery May or June day in England; the nights are as cold as your November, but without fog; the stars shine with intense lustre, and the moon seems to hang in space; it seems as if the eye could penetrate into space beyond, so pure and transparent is the atmosphere.

I should be glad to get some industrious laborers—here is employment enough: Suter and his wife have £55 a-year and their board and lodging.

I settled to-day with them for a quarter's wages, and after deducting some money they wished to send home, I had the pleasure of depositing for them in the Bank £8, for which they had no present use. Poor Suter observed, "I can't help saying, sir, I am a great deal more satisfied here than I was in England." The Bank allows five per cent. on deposits from £1 to £20; then 7 per cent to £100. and above that sum 10 per cent: this is a great bonus to our labouring population, and many of them are saving money fast; one of our men has saved £14 a quarter. The only smith in the colony who has tools, is engaged by the company at £4 4s. a week and his rations: any steady young man in that line would soon make a fortune. Indeed any trade would prosper here but *doctors*; we have several already, and they are almost all obliged to turn their attention to something else, as they find no patients. I have forgotten all about the pain in my chest. I work hard, and am always in the open air, seeing after the men and the stock. The town acres are even now very much increased in value, and are fetching £300 or £400 per cent. premium. Assure our friends that we have found things better than we had even hoped for, and that it would be a real hardship to think of returning.

May 31st. You must tell all who enquire about us that we have found this country far to exceed our expectations, and have not a wish to return. There will, no doubt, be accounts from grumblers reaching England, from people who would grumble anywhere; but I assure you we are not singular in our opinion, all our acquaintance here are as fond of the country as ourselves. In addition to the flowers and flowering shrubs that have so much delighted us, the bulbs are now shooting up since the rains, so that we have a succession of bonny nosegays: we are busy getting our garden-seeds into the ground. Suter is highly delighted to get back to his old occupation of gardening.

Adelaide, August 4, 1837.

We have now had two weeks of as much wet, stormy weather as we could wish for, and suppose we must now call it winter, though it is just such weather as we have often had in England in a wet summer. The ground is now so boggy, and the brooks so much swollen that we cannot proceed on horseback to our sheep-run by the way of Glenelg—one is no sooner off the sand-hills than the horse plunges up to his girths in the rich black soil. We have bought of Mr. Fisher nine heifers, they were imported from the Cape for the good of the Colony, and with those we have, we shall muster a respectable dairy. They are most beautiful cattle, and I will venture to say that 14 more beautiful cows I never saw together in England. We have appointed a regular stock-keeper, and charge 2s. 6d. a head per week to any who wish their cattle kept with our herd; we can sell as much milk as we have to spare at 1s. per quart, and butter at 3s. per pound—these prices sound odd to English ears, but when you remember that the poorest man here can earn 5s. to 6s. a day with rations, it alters the case. The government bullocks which came by the Royal George, 60 in number, having been lost for some time, we were asked to look for them. Stephen has started with our man, Tom Davis, who has the peculiar knack of tracking them, and two natives who state that they have seen

them. S—— is nearly master of the native language which is a very valuable acquisition.

To our great surprise the party returned in two days bringing in thirty-five. We have lived on kangaroo for some time past; one of our dogs caught five or six last week—Bran, you will recollect him at Grayling Wells, a white lurcher.

Having suffered so much inconvenience in getting goods out of vessels in the harbour from the dray sticking in the mud, I with others memorialized government on the subject, and understood that proposals for cutting a canal through the Mangrove Swamp would be favourably entertained. Though very unwilling to send in a contract, having so few data to found calculations upon, I did so, and it was accepted, and a considerable part is now completed. The canal will be 840 feet long by 20 wide at the top; it will enable goods to be discharged at the warehouses without delay, and the harbour will then be as convenient as possible. Every one seems now surprised that there could have been any objection to the harbour. Two schooners are now up discharging goods opposite the landing-place. We seem likely to be supplied with every thing we can want. Things now begin to look so comfortable and settled that we forget we are in a strange country. The rains have clothed the earth with a green as beautiful as an English meadow in May, and with flowers too as sweet as an English violet: the pure snow-white anemone resembles it in scent, and to our eyes is quite as beautiful.

You in England have no idea how the rain comes down here; it would wet a person through in a few minutes; but between the showers we have the most beautiful spring-like weather. The flowers are now springing up in abundance everywhere; my chimney-piece was never so decorated in England. Everywhere now there is fine long grass, and the quantity of it is astonishing. From morning to night there is so much to be done, and being all blessed with health, we are always cheerful.

This is indeed a noble country. Colonel Light has been surveying the plain adjoining the city, which is four miles square, covered with beautiful grass and without a tree to interrupt the plough, and *all* good soil. A gentleman who has chartered a vessel from the Mauritius, and came in her to this place, after visiting Swan-river, tells me that there is more fertile land between Adelaide and the coast, than in all the discovered parts of the Swan-river. All who have seen New South Wales, Van Dieman's Land, and this colony, allow that they never saw such fertile plains in either of the two former places: one of our men, who has worked many years in New South Wales asserts, that there are only Liverpool plains which at all approach to these. At Swan-river when they land cattle, they land fodder to support them till they arrive at grass in the interior. S—— has been in quest of the strayed government-cattle nearly to the head of the gulf, and found every few miles a fine run of water and beautiful plains. The number of running streams in every direction has surprised us much. The plains extended towards the Murray-river, round the head of the *tiers*, till they were lost in the horizon. There is no doubt but we can have a level, easy communication with the Murray whenever we please. A noble forest of stringy-bark trees has been discovered in the neighbourhood of Mount Lofty, enough to fence in all our farms, but Mr. Fisher will not allow it to be cut till it has been surveyed and sold, to the

mortification of many who had begun cutting down these noble trees. Every grumbler has hitherto said. "What use are all these fine plains? you can't fence them in—there is no timber worth a rush." One of our men told me he could show me as fine pine and cedar as in New South Wales, and I believe him. I rode to the stringy-bark forest, and nearly to the top of Mount Lofty, and was surprised it had not been discovered before. We rode six miles through in a straight line, and it extended as far as the eye could reach—it grows best when the roots heave up the solid rock in heaps round the trees.

Letter from Mr. STEPHEN HACK.—May, 1837.

The first great doubts I always had of the way the blacks would behave is, I am glad to say, completely set at rest: they are honest to a remarkable degree, generally well-behaved, and often extremely useful; in point of fact there are fewer instances of the blacks misbehaving than the whites, and those few are of the most trifling nature. Their most usual job is fetching wood and water, for which they are always paid in "bicketty," as they call it: they work a long time for the sake of one biscuit. Their name for Glenelg, is Corrandilla, which being interpreted means "good water." Adelaide, the city, they call Wallinga. Onkeperinga, Oatbunga, Morialta, Aldinga, Yankudilly, are all names of places in this neighbourhood. We arrived here in the middle of February, and have enjoyed the most delightful weather ever since, with occasional showers. The heat is rarely so oppressive as you often have it in England, on account of there being generally a pleasant fresh breeze, and it is mostly cool at night, so that you do not find two blankets at all too much. The first fortnight I was on shore, I lived under one of the carts, for want of a better house; my brother and his family staid on board till we got up the wooden houses we brought from England; they turn out the most comfortable convenient places possible, and taking the climate into consideration, are quite as comfortable as any brick house in England.

In this colony every one is making a very large profit if they have any thing to sell, but there are a great many helpless, shiftless, ignorant cockneys who will never do any good at home or abroad. The value of our dray and six oxen with every thing complete is here nearly £300, it cost £150. Stock in Van Dieman's Land is much dearer than at Sidney, though from there you have the disadvantage of bringing them double the distance, and of course at proportionate expense and risk: if properly stowed, however, there is little or no risk with horses or cattle. The land here is generally good; there is a small proportion that is actually good for nothing; to use a colonial phrase, "a bandicoot (an animal between a rat and a rabbit) would starve upon it." There is a large extent, however, of first-rate soil, as black as ink, and a great deal without a tree upon it, and fit to plough up without any preparation, not a root nor a stump in the way; there is a great burden of grass in many places: I am going to mow about 3 or 4 acres for the horses, and it is thought there is nearly 2½ tons to the acre: but the general character of the pasture is that of the grass growing in separate roots from 2 inches to a foot apart. Here is your green-house geranium growing wild, and many others that I am not florist enough to name; there is also celery, a kind of kidney-potatoe,

and garden-parsley in abundance. Snakes of any kind are scarce: when they do bite they are very venomous, but they never attack any body, but get out of the way as fast as possible, which I own, I am very willing to let them do. I have been lately living a good deal out in the bush, part of the time exploring, and since that time I have been busy putting up a secure sheep-fold, huts, &c. in a beautiful valley in the hills, about 8 miles from any settlement; this will show you we do not live in much fear of the black fellows. While I was exploring I killed my first kangaroo; it was a monstrous "old man," as they are called here: my white lurcher pulled him, but the kangaroo took him up in his fore paws and dashed him to the ground as if he had been a puppy; but luckily my mastiff was out with me, and came up in time to get a spring at him; the kangaroo was not able to throw him about quite so easily, but still he actually held him, at arms' length, till I came up: I put my shoulder under his tail, and with a great effort capsized him, and as soon as I could, cut his hamstrings; before I could do this, he gave a kick that sent the white dog up in the air three or four feet; but the instant the kangaroo was down the dogs fastened on his throat, and soon made an end of him. We found the old man to weigh more than a hundred and a half. When fighting he stood nearly or quite as tall as I do. Mr. Pinnix's greyhound, Driver, is a very successful dog here; he makes play of killing an emu; the first one he had a severe engagement with, but now he knows how to lay hold of them by the throat; the emu is, if possible, finer meat than the kangaroo, and will weigh from 80 to 120 lbs. The parrots are very numerous and beautiful here; strictly speaking, there are no real parrots except the small green love-bird, the rest are parakeets, cockatoos and macaws; they are all good eating except the "black cockatoo," which is terribly tough; the cockatoo cannot be distinguished from young duck; we have also quantities of quails and wild ducks. The wild dogs here are very numerous and troublesome, but as the country becomes more settled they will be thinned out. I suppose this is the beginning of winter, if so who would live in cold, damp, dripping England? I am now living in the bush in a hut made of split boards and rushes, without either door, window-shutter, or fire-place, and without feeling the want of any of them. There has been little or no illness here. Mr. Cotter, the colonial surgeon, praises the climate highly. My brother is looking better than ever he did in England, so that the main object of our coming here seems answered. This part of the country lies in vast level plains, some of them five or six miles square, bounded by belts of forest, and divided and intersected by belts of bushes, which at a distance have the appearance of hedges. As soon as we get a little more settled, I am going to explore the country between this and the Murray river. When I was in England I thought there would be something very sublime in going over a country which no white man had ever trod before, but now that I have done so half-a-score times it does not seem worth a thought.

Letter from Mr. BROWN, Immigration Agent.

Adelaide, South Australia, 27th May, 1837.

We all arrived here in health and safety, in November last, and have now had nearly seven months of colonization. I assure you that a finer

climate there cannot be in the world ; and the country is, I think, equally to be admired and valued. Adelaide, our chief town, is placed upon two hills of limestone, about four miles east of the sea and Gulf St. Vincent, and is divided by the river Torrens, a small stream in summer, with deep pools at intervals, but in winter a mountain-torrent. The plan of the town you will see at the office, and understand better at one glance, than by twenty descriptions ; but the beauty of the scenery around it you could not comprehend if we sent home fifty drawings ; it is picturesque and romantic in a high degree, and round about the ravines in the Mount Lofty range, from the top of that hill, and in numberless other points, you get most beautiful views of a country in every respect delightful. There are many thousand acres now ready for the plough, without a tree to be cleared, and the soil generally is most productive. There is a scarcity of wood, but this is compensated by the little expense of clearing. I have hitherto been living in my tent, and have found no inconvenience from the exposure to the weather, except a profusion of dust in dry and windy weather, and a little chilliness in the clear and cool evenings we have lately had : yet even now, though so near our Christmas, we have weather more like the fine days of an early autumn than any thing like winter ; beautiful plants and flowers are springing up constantly, and we have had such a succession of them, that scarcely a day passes but some one brings us another new flower. Another and very important subject for congratulation is, that we have no disturbance with the natives. They seem to place full confidence in us ; and I assure you, that frequently I go to sleep with fifty of them lying within ten yards of my tent, without a moment's suspicion on either side, and without losing a wink of sleep from any fear of them. They are superior to the Sidney and Van Dieman's Land blacks, both in appearance and intelligence ; and will, I hope and believe, in time be very useful to us, if treated as they ought to be. At present they fetch water, wood, charcoal, &c., for a little biscuit, and are delighted to go out shooting or hunting with us. The birds and animals are as singular as the flowers are beautiful. The emu stalking along like an ostrich, the hopping kangaroo, the great turkey, black as well as white cockatoos, parrots of all sizes, and some exceedingly handsome, wild ducks, teal, quails in abundance ; all these things are within the reach of a good shot, and a double-barrelled gun. I have, I assure you, had many a good dinner off the game killed in a couple of hours, in a fine summer's morning ; and strange as it may appear to you, a stewed cockatoo, a parrot-pudding, a steak off the leg of an emu, or a tureen of kangaroo-soup, is a dish that you would relish even in London, in spite of all the attractions there. My temporary house is putting up on acre 257 : there we shall be when you receive this, with Mount Lofty in front of us, at the distance of eight miles, a lower range of beautiful hills a little nearer ; and between this and the town, a beautiful valley studded with a few small trees and covered with the richest herbage. The town slopes downward to the valley, and I have nothing between me and the view. It is more like the richer and more verdant of the views in Cumberland, than any thing else I know. The harbour at Port Adelaide is excellent, fit for any vessel not exceeding 800 tons at all times. It is a beautiful piece of water, and sheltered from every wind ; and every body now declares the town and harbour to be excellent.

*Letter addressed to Mr. Wilson, Baker, Midhurst.**South Australia, May 6th, 1837.*

Dear Father, Mother, Brothers, and Sisters,—I take the opportunity of writing to inform you that we arrived safe, after a journey of 107 days, without seeing land. We arrived at Kangaroo Island quite well, on the 6th of February. We sailed from Portsmouth with a fine breeze, and were soon out of sight of land. Sally was sea-sick and likewise all the females for a fortnight and upwards; I was almost the only one that escaped sea-sickness. We had a plenty of provisions allowed us, and more than we could eat, and a quart of wine every three days.* We saw large quantities of flying-fish; several of them were caught. They would rise out of the water like a flock of birds, and fly to the distance of 2 or 300 yards. We caught several dolphins and other fish, which were excellent eating. We had no rough weather all the way out, so that we know nothing of the dangers of the seas, but all was smooth and quiet. We had fiddling and dancing about once a week, and all seemed homely and pleasant; and had it not been for the number on board, every thing would have been very comfortable. We landed at Holdfast Bay in St. Vincent's Gulf, and had to travel seven miles inland to the settlement. The bullock-carts are engaged in conveying provisions to the town—there is no means of hiring for a day. It would be a good speculation for any man of a little property to buy a horse and cart, or a pair of bullocks to convey goods from the landing to the town. There is a beautiful and splendid river, as large as the Thames, that might for three or four thousand pounds be made navigable; still it will be some time ere it is done. The want of labor is great, and the price thereof is also high: laboring men get 5s. or 6s. a day. I am working at 5s. a day; provisions are high, but a man may put by 10s. per week, and live well. Butcher's meat 1s. a pound. I have potatoes, and French-beans up, and the beans are some fit to pull. I have a quarter of an acre of town-land which cost £2 10s. My love to all, farewell. Remember me to brother Charles, and tell him and Harry to come out here. God bless you.

* Having stated that I would show how we might "bridge over the ocean," it is important that I should prove that ours is really a safe bridge—that it has not a great hole in the middle—this is the more necessary, as most distressing accounts have reached this country of the sufferings of emigrants to Canada and New South Wales, owing to inattention to their accommodation during the voyage. These stories naturally, and very properly, make the public look with jealousy at the conduct of those concerned in promoting emigration. But if my neighbour steals a watch, am I guilty of felony? I have been scrupulously careful not to mislead by making any statement that I did not feel convinced was correct, and in nothing have I been so anxious to be accurate as in the following account of the arrangements on shipboard. The sea-worthiness of the vessel is first ascertained by a competent surveyor employed by the Commissioners. The berths of unmarried men are arranged towards the head of the vessel, the married people in the middle, and the single women toward the stern, each class in separate apartments. The superintendent of emigration, is charged by the Commissioners to inspect with vigilant care that the passengers shall not be over-crowded, that due attention be paid to ventilation and to all the little minutiae on which so much depends, the pleasantness of the voyage.—I have anxiously examined the accounts of their treatment on shipboard sent home by laboring emigrants, and have found them uniformly bearing grateful testimony to the attention paid them. The dietary will speak for itself as far as food is concerned.—H. W.

FROM THE LIVERPOOL ALBION.

Extract of a Letter authenticated to the Editor, dated Port Adelaide, August 1st, 1837.

Having now circumnavigated the Australian continent, you may rely upon what I am about to say. Unless I had seen the land in this province with my own eyes, and examined its character, I never would have credited the existence of such a fine country. Nothing can exceed the beauty and extent of clear fertile country here. You may drive the plough through meadows of splendid pasturage of thousands of acres without a single obstruction; no shrub, and just sufficient timber to make the face of the country park-like; the soil a deep loam, with plenty of water, lime, and clay, and most luxuriant grass embodying the flowers, such as the buttercup, which indicate the quality of the soil; in short, it is, in climate and soil, all that man can desire; and the port is capable of great improvement, with great natural facilities for docks, canals, &c.; moreover, I have no doubt coal will be found to crown all. The whole of the city-allotments are sold, and have advanced from 800 to 1500 per cent. The surveying department however is too weak to keep pace with the influx of settlers, and the demand for land. If you can purchase any of the preliminary sections, which comprise the lands bought at 12s. per acre, at an advance of 100 per cent. I strongly advise you to do it, as they carry the priority of choice out of the surveyed lands spreading from the city in a radius; all these selections among the preliminary proprietors are to be determined by lot, when the quantum of acres is measured. The province is so like one of our fine English counties, and so totally different, in many respects, from all I have seen in Australia, as to be difficult of belief; and those who have the power to invest in land cannot fail, from the character of the soil in an arable and stock point of view, to quadruple their capital within three or four years. In short, I am as certain as I am that I am alive, this will rise more rapidly in importance than any other colony did in the world.

On reading these letters who can help feeling intensely interested in the fate of this infant colony in South Australia? Lord Bacon has truly called the planting of a new colony an heroic enterprise. We seem to have before our eyes the first germ of a great nation—the forests are falling before the white man's axe, and an elegant city is rising in the wilderness. The waves that since the birth of time have idly chafed against the beach, are now bearing stately ships laden with the products of human ingenuity; the earth, which here produces spontaneously some of the fairest flowers of our gardens and conservatories, is now teeming with the first harvest sown by civilized man. The echoes that have hitherto resounded with the war-whoop of the savage, are now burthened with the hum of busy industry, the bleating of flocks, or the voice of praise to God for all his blessings.

A nation is starting into existence, destined in all human probability, to take a proud station among the kingdoms of the earth. May its destinies be as glorious as its commencement has been auspicious. Here may Commerce direct her sail, here may Freedom wave her banner, here may Religion found her sanctuary.

It is strongly recommended that labouring emigrants should take out the materials for clothing, and that their wives should make them on the voyage. The following is an economical disposal of £7.

	£.	s.	d.
18 yds. good calico at 6d .	0	9	0
6 — flannel..... 1s.	0	6	0
18 — printed cotton..... 6d.	0	9	0
6 — fustian..... 1s. 4d.	0	8	0
6 — dyed linen for round frocks 1s.	0	6	0
7 — dyed calico for petticoats 6d.	0	3	6
3 pair women's stockings 1s.	0	3	0
3 — men's ditto 1s. 6d.	0	4	6
Thread, tape, needles, pins, &c. a good assortment	0	4	0
3 yards of muslin for caps..... 1s.	0	3	0
1 pair stays 0 4 0	0	4	0
	£3 0 0		
Men's cloth jackets, ...	0	10	0
— boots	0	10	0
— shoes	0	8	0
Women's shoes..... 2 pair	0	8	0
1 pair each, blankets and sheets	1	0	0
	£2 16 0		
Hand-saw	5	0	
Felling-axe	4	0	
Hand-bill	2	0	
Spade	2	10	
Pickaxe	1	0	
One dozen gimlets.....	3	2	
Adze	2	0	
Nails, &c., &c.	4	0	
	£1 4 0		
	£7 0 0		

APPENDIX.

I.—Hints for the Voyage &c. contained in a Letter from Mr. S. HACK.

Launceston January 4th, 1837.

First.—Don't have any sea-chests, but have drawers for every thing after you have measured your room, as by that means you save the space that the box would take to open, and may use it as a table as well ; chests are very inconvenient, as you cannot easily get at the bottom of them. All washing tackle, drinking vessels, &c. should be made of pewter ; and a tin covered can, with a swing handle and a spout, capable of containing a good deal of water, would be a great comfort, as you are only allowed a pint to wash, and when it rains you may fill that, and have plenty. Bring plenty of jam and things to mix with the water when it gets stale, or you won't be able to drink it comfortably. Plenty of hooks, and large nails to hang things on. Have every thing in the cabin in frames, so that when the ship rolls they won't break adrift. Bring chloride of lime in powder. Don't choose a berth that has a door in the middle ; it is a great waste of room : that one opposite the companion-ladder is the coolest in crossing the line, but the coldest in rounding the Cape ; the right time to start is the time we did, (September,) as by that means you get fine weather all the way, and reach the colony in the middle of the summer. Raspberry-vinegar and ginger-beer powders, and indeed anything to take off the horrible taste of the water are indispensable.

And now I am going to give the most important advice of the whole, and that is, however agreeable and friendly the captain may be on shore, have a written agreement with him as to the quantity of every allowance, and more especially as to the children : and have specified the time they are to have all their meals, and stipulate for a fresh dinner every day, and an allowance of preserved milk ; and above all, that they have it in the main-cabin. Also, if you take the after-cabins see that the sky-light is water-tight. When you are on board keep up ceremony with all the passengers ; it is the only way to agree : if you don't follow this from the beginning, you will find the value of it before you are three months on board : I cannot lay too much stress on this. Small tubs well painted, are good substitutes for washhand-basins for children : they should have a stand to fix them in. If it should be the right time of the year, lay in a large stock of app'es : bring a good dread-nought jacket, waistcoat, and trowsers, to wear going past the Cape, as it is very cold there :—you want more clothes than in winter in England. Get also a sailor's loose monkey-jacket and woollen stockings. Bring any thing that will be coolest, and of a colour that will not show dirt, to wear in hot weather. Children's shoes wear out very fast on board : they require a large stock ; the salt-water perishes them. Be very careful in getting every thing properly lashed : if a chest breaks loose in a squall, it may injure the children seriously before you can secure it. This is all I think I need say about the voyage, except that you should go direct to the colony ;

if possible calling at the Cape for stock, and not going to Van Dieman's Land first. You should go to Davies, machine-maker, Oxford-street, and get his flour-mill and dressing-machine, and Cottam and Hallam, Winsley-street, for their cooking-stove.

We found, after passing the Cape, that we required all our winter-clothing; the greatest luxury we could have had would have been Gloucester (cloth) boots. All carts and agricultural implements are much better procured from Launceston, for, although you pay more for them, they answer the purpose so much better, that it is worth paying the difference, and you only purchase what you want. Cottages from Manning's, 251, Holborn, are well worth bringing out for any one who has a family, which he must house at once.

I found on the voyage I wanted more than anything some dark loose jean jackets, for as I was obliged to leave off both coat and waistcoat, they would have been very useful to keep my linen clean; the children, too, wore out their dresses; we ought to have taken a frock and a pair of shoes for each month we expected to be out. We found we could render our cabin very comfortable by raising the sky-light a few inches, and wish we had known we could have done so when the weather was so oppressive. Our preserved milk did not last out: a few goats would have been much preferable; they are the hardiest of sea-stock; our milk was half converted into butter.

After passing the Cape, the children suffered much from broken chilblains: to have worsted stockings and good calf shoes and Gloucester in the cold weather; our own blacking and brushes. Shoes will not on board ship without blacking at least once a week.

II.—*Abstract of the Principles and Regulations adopted by the Commissioners for the Colonization of South Australia, appointed by Act 4 & 5 of Will. IV. Cap. 95.*

1. **PRINCIPLES OF COLONIZATION.**—The characteristic feature of the Plan of Colonization laid down by the Act of Parliament, is a certain means of securing a sufficient supply of free labour.

2. This is accomplished by requiring every applicant for colonial land, in order to entitle himself to a grant, to pay a certain sum per acre to a general fund, to be employed in carrying out laborers.

3. The **EMIGRATION FUND** thus raised is placed under the management of the Commissioners; whose duty it is to regulate the rate of payment, so as to obtain neither too large nor too small a number of laborers; and by the selection of young healthy persons of good character, and of both sexes in equal numbers, to render the fund as efficient for the purpose of the colony as possible.

4. This arrangement secures many important advantages. First.—Having provided a sufficient supply of free labor, the Act of Parliament declares that no convicts shall be sent to the settlement, and thus the colonists are protected from the enormous evils which result from the immorality and profligacy unavoidable in a penal settlement. Secondly.—As the laborers will be carried out at the common cost of the landowners, by means of the Emigration Fund, and as they will be sufficiently numerous, it is not necessary that they should be indentured to any one. Both employers and laborers will be perfectly free to enter into any arrangements which may be mutually agreed upon, a state of things which experience has shown, to be

much more conducive to contentment and prosperity than any other. Thirdly.—The contribution to the Emigration Fund being a necessary preliminary to the acquisition of land, laborers taken out cost free, before becoming landowners, and thus ceasing to work for others, will furnish the means of carrying out other laborers to supply their places. This arrangement, the fairness of which must be obvious to every one, is really beneficial, not only to those who are landowners in the first instance, but to those also who may become such by a course of industry and frugality: for while it diminishes the injurious facility with which, in most new colonies, a person with scarcely any capital can become a petty landowner or *collier*—a temptation which few have sufficient strength of mind to resist, notwithstanding the state is one of incessant care and toil—it holds out a prospect of real independence and comfort to those who will patiently wait the very few years, which are necessary to enable any one with colonial wages, to acquire sufficient capital to purchase land and become a master. Fourthly.—As those who will cultivate their land, and thus require many laborers, will contribute no more to the Emigration Fund than those who may leave it waste, the non-cultivation of those extensive appropriated districts—one of the chief obstacles to the progress of every colony hitherto established—will be greatly discouraged if not altogether prevented.

5. In determining the amount of contribution to the Emigration Fund, the Commissioners are required at any given time, to make an uniform charge per acre, whatever may be the situation or quality of the land granted, and in no case to fix the charge at less than 12s. per acre. The payment is made once only, namely, when the party receives a grant of the land, which grant gives him an absolute and unconditional title to the estate; the crown making no reserve whatever.

6. As the contribution to the Emigration Fund is the sole condition of obtaining land, the amount of contribution is described in the Act of Parliament and in the following regulations as its price. It is worthy of remark, however, that as the Commissioners are required to expend the Emigration Fund, without any deduction whatever, in carrying out laborers, *the whole contribution is returned to those who make it, in the form of passage-money for their laborers*; and therefore, strictly speaking, it is not land but the facility of obtaining labor which is bought. It is important that this principle should be steadily kept in view by those who may desire to understand the plan on which the colony will be formed.

7. **EXTENT, CLIMATE, &c., OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA.**—South Australia extends from the 132nd to the 141st degree of east longitude, and from the south coast, including the adjacent islands, northward, to the 26th degree of south latitude; a district which is at least twice as large as the islands of Great Britain and Ireland. The information received by the Commissioners from the parties who have already settled at the town of Adelaide, on the east coast of St. Vincent's Gulf, confirms the favourable opinions of the country expressed by Captain Flinders, Captain Sturt, and others.

8. South Australia contains much fertile soil, and possesses a genial climate, resembling that of the south of Europe; while the numerous gulfs and narrow seas with which it abounds, offer unusual facilities for communication by water.

9. The geographical position of South Australia, which lays it open to

the prevailing westerly winds, renders it comparatively free from the droughts which in New South Wales are occasionally so destructive.

10. **THE AVERAGE LENGTH OF THE PASSAGE TO ST. VINCENT'S GULF**, is somewhat less than four months. The best time of arrival will be about August, that is, early in the Australian spring. This, however, is a point of minor importance, as there is no severe season in South Australia; the summer being free from excessive heat, and the winter so mild that frosts are of extremely rare occurrence.

11. **GOVERNMENT OF THE COLONY**.—The new Colony will be governed by laws expressly enacted for its use by a council, to be nominated by Her Majesty from among the colonial residents, until the population shall reach 50,000 souls, when the colonists will be entitled to a constitution of local government.

12. **COST OF PASSAGE**.—A free passage is given to the laboring class only, all others must make their own arrangements for a passage with the owners of the vessels proceeding to the colony. The cost of passage for a single person is from £15 to £20 in the steerage, from £35 to £40 in the middle berths, and about £70 in the cabin. Two or more occupying the same cabin would be charged somewhat less.

13. **ALLOWANCE OF BAGGAGE**.—A cabin-passenger may stow what baggage he pleases in his cabin, in addition to which he is generally allowed half a ton; and a steerage-passenger generally half a ton in the whole. Extra baggage is charged £2 10s. a ton. The ton is forty cubic feet.

14. **GOODS, &c., CARRIED OUT**.—Provisions, stock, seeds, agricultural implements suited to the country, and stores of almost every kind, can be obtained from the neighbouring colony of Van Dieman's Land. But the emigrant of moderate capital should not neglect a favourable opportunity of carrying out with him strong plain clothing, an assortment of the most useful carpenter's tools, and the smaller farming implements, such as spades, hoes, stubbing-mattocks, &c., as well as a few medicines, and any other articles which he may consider important.

15. **PROVISIONS AND OTHER STORES**.—To prevent the scarcity and high price which might arise if the supplies by private dealers should prove inadequate, the Commissioners will send out a large stock of provisions and other necessary stores, which, if required, will be sold to the colonists, but at prices sufficiently high not to interfere unnecessarily with the private dealer.

16. **CAPITAL REQUIRED**.—This must of course depend very much on the mode of living the emigrant will adopt, and many other circumstances. If his intention is to purchase land, he should not have less, after making his purchase and paying his passage, than about £150 for every eighty acres; if his intention is to rent a farm already fenced and brought into partial cultivation, which may readily be done, two-thirds of that sum will probably suffice. The South Australian Company,* as well as some individual proprietors, are willing to let farms on lease to industrious tenants, and to secure the tenant a right of purchase before the expiration of the lease at a price to be fixed at the time the tenant enters.

* The Office of the Company is at No. 19, Bishopsgate-within, where application should be made for further information on the subject.

17. **TRANSMISSION OF MONEY TO THE COLONY.**—A bank has been established, by means of which money can be safely transmitted to the colony.

18. **RELIGION.**—A society has been formed among the settlers, with the sanction and co-operation of some of the dignitaries of the church, for the erection and maintenance of churches by voluntary contributions. Another society, aided by some of the most highly respected dissenting ministers, has been formed for the erection and support of dissenting places of worship.

19. **EDUCATION.**—A literary and scientific society has been established, which is forming a library and a collection of philosophical apparatus, and arrangements are made for the education of the children in the colony.

20. **PROTECTION OF THE COLONY.**—The natives have proved an inoffensive people. The most friendly intercourse has been established between them and the settlers, and the laws of the colony require that they should be treated in every respect as fellow-men.

21. The Commissioners continue to sell land at 20s. per acre.

22. **REGULATIONS FOR THE DISPOSAL OF LAND IN THE COLONY.**—The surveys of public land will, as far as possible, be carried so much in advance of settled districts, that there shall, at all times, be an extent of land surveyed, and open to purchase, exceeding the wants of the colonists.

23. Surveyed lands will be divided as nearly as may be into sections of eighty acres each, and maps of the surveyed lands, accompanied by the best practicable description of them, shall be constantly exhibited in the land-office in the colony.

24. On some fixed day of every week, and at some fixed hour, the land-office will be opened for the purpose of deciding upon applications for land. All applications must be made by sealed tender, by filling up a printed form, which will be supplied at the land-office. Each tender must specify, by reference to the map, the section or sections for which the intending purchaser applies. All sections included in the same tender, must adjoin each other. All tenders will be opened in public, and those received on the same day will be opened at the same time. Such tenders as do not comprise any section included in any other tender, shall be first disposed of. When the same section, or sections, shall be named in two or more tenders, that tender shall be preferred which comprises the greatest quantity of land. When one or more sections shall be named in two or more tenders comprising equal quantities of land, then the tender to be preferred shall be decided by lot.

25. The sole condition of purchase is the payment of money, at the rate of 1*l.* sterling per acre; and nothing, whether above or below the surface of the land, is reserved by the crown. Five per cent. on the amount of the purchase-money must be deposited at the time of making the tender, and the remainder must be paid within one week of the sale. If the remainder of the purchase-money be not paid within the time specified, the land will be again open to purchase, and the deposit will be forfeited.

26. Leases of the pasturage of unsold lands will be granted on the following conditions among others:—The term to be three years, the tenant having a right of renewal in preference to any other applicant. Cultivation of the soil and the felling of timber to be disallowed. The land, or any portion of it, to be liable to sale, and if sold, the lease to terminate on a notice of two months, the tenant having a right of renewal to unsold

portions. The yearly rent to be 40s. sterling per square mile. No lease to contain any fractional part of a square mile of pasturage.

27. Any one who shall hereafter pay in advance to the proper officer, either in England or in the colony, the price of 4,000 acres of land or upwards, shall have a right for every 4,000 acres thus paid for, to call on the Colonial Commissioner to direct the survey of any compact district within the colony of an extent not exceeding 15,000 acres, and, within fourteen days after the publication of such surveys at the land-office, to select his land from any part of such district before any other applicant. If two parties should apply at the same time for the same survey, the decision between them shall be according to rule 24.

28. An accurate statement of all purchases of land made, and leases of pasturage granted, specifying the quantity and situation in each case, and the name of the purchaser or tenant, will be published from time to time in the colonial Gazette.

29. REGULATIONS FOR THE SELECTION OF EMIGRANT LABOURERS.—The Act of Parliament declares that the whole of the funds arising from the sale of land and the rent of pasturage shall form an EMIGRATION FUND; to be employed in affording a free passage to the colony from Great Britain and Ireland for poor persons, "provided that they shall as far as possible be adult persons of the two sexes in equal proportions, and not exceeding the age of thirty years."

30. Purchasers of land in this country will be allowed the privilege of selecting servants and laborers for a free passage at the rate of one person for every £20 expended in land, provided that the selection is made within a reasonable time, that it is in conformity with the existing regulations for the selection of emigrant laborers, and that there is at the time a want of labor in the colony. The laborers must always be in equal proportions of the sexes—one female for every male; not under fifteen, nor more than thirty years of age.

31. Any emigrant capitalist or other party who may be desirous of fitting out a vessel for the colony from any port of Great Britain or Ireland, will be allowed to carry out, at the charge of the Commissioners, any approved emigrants who may offer themselves in the neighbourhood of such port, provided that the arrangements for securing the comforts and safety of the emigrants on their passage are approved of by the Commissioners, and that the charge per head does not exceed that for emigrants leaving the port of London.

II.—*Dietary for free Emigrants to South Australia.*

The passengers will be in messes of six, or altogether, as may be determined by the Surgeon Superintendent, and be victualled according to the annexed scale, per head.

Bread	$\frac{3}{4}$ lb.	} daily	Butter	6 oz.	} per week.
Meat*	$\frac{1}{2}$ lb.		Rice	1 lb.	
Water	3 qrts.		Sugar	$\frac{1}{2}$ lb.	
Flour	$\frac{1}{2}$ lb.		Peas	1 pint.	
Tea	$\frac{1}{2}$ oz.	} daily on alternate	Raisins	$\frac{1}{2}$ lb.	
Coffee	$\frac{1}{2}$ oz.		Vinegar	$\frac{1}{2}$ pint	
Cocoa	1 oz.		Oatmeal	$\frac{1}{2}$ pint	
Potatoes $\frac{3}{4}$ lb.	4 days in the week.		Mustard	$\frac{1}{2}$ oz.	
Suet	1 oz. daily				

* Alternately beef, pork (both prime new Irish East India) and preserved meat.

N. B. Women receive the same rations as men ; children to receive rations in proportion to the charges made for their passage.

In case of illness, barley is to be served out : and when the potatoes are expended, 1 lb. of rice may be substituted for 3 lbs. of potatoes.

The usual supply of medical comforts is also to be put on board for use in case of sickness, in the proportion of

For every 100 passengers, counting the children at rates proportionate to the charge for each	10 lbs. of arrow root.
	50 lbs. of preserved beef.
	400 pints of lemon juice, in stone one-gallon bottles, and 400 lbs. of sugar to mix with it.
	60 lbs. of Scotch barley.
	18 bottles of port wine.
	300 gallons of London stout, in $\frac{1}{2}$ hhd. 50 gallons of rum.

The medical comforts to be issued as the surgeon shall deem proper. It is intended that women who may be nursing should have a pint of porter each per day ; also, that if the water should be bad, an allowance of spirit-and-water should be issued daily to all those who do not receive porter, at the rate of one-eighth of a pint of spirit each adult, mixed, before being issued, with at least half-a-pint of water.

Fresh meat and soft bread to be supplied until one day after passing the Downs, and whenever opportunity shall offer. Any passenger will have a right to draw his whole allowance, though he may not consume so much : the remainder he may put by or dispose of to the owners, as he may think proper.

Daily Meals.

Breakfast	Tea, or coffee, or cocoa, and sugar.
Dinner	According to the above scale.
Supper	Tea, or coffee, or cocoa, and sugar.

List of other Articles to be provided by the Owners for the Passengers.

One wooden mess-bowl	} for each mess of six passengers.
One ditto platter	
One mess bread-basket	
One tin quart-pot	
Two or three gallon hawse buckets	

Filters, flour-scales and weights, pewter, wooden and tin measures, two swing-stoves, with brooms, deck-scrapers, and all other articles necessary for the comfortable accommodation of the passengers and cleanliness of the ship.

Free emigrants should provide their own knives and forks, and spoons and plates.

THE END.



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